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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2008

WHARTON PROFESSOR CHARGED WITH SEX OFFENSES

Indictment alleges transporting and shipping child pornography and making false statements

PHILADELPHIA – U.S. Attorney Pat Meehan today announced the filing of an indictment¹ charging Lawrence Scott Ward with two counts of transporting and shipping child pornography, and one count of making false statements to the U.S. State Department. Ward, who was at the time of the crimes an Emeritus Professor of Marketing at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, is charged with shipping images of himself engaged in sexual activity with a 16-year-old boy. The indictment further alleges that Ward used his position as an Emeritus Professor at Wharton in his attempt to secure a visa for the boy from the U.S. State Department's Consulate General in Recife, Brazil, to bring the victim to the United States. In his efforts to bring the boy to the United States, Ward allegedly falsely asserted that he knew the boy's family and that they were wealthy, to dispel fears that the boy was poor and would become an illegal immigrant.

The indictment charges that on August 1, 2006, the defendant sent a package by Federal Express from Maui, Hawaii, to his office at the University of Pennsylvania. According to the indictment the package contained six DVDs, each containing a video recording of Ward having sex with the victim on different occasions.

The indictment further charges that on August 8, 2006, defendant Ward mailed a package from Dulles Airport in Virginia to his University of Pennsylvania office, which contained a CD with sexually explicit photographs of the 16 year old victim.

"People who molest children and video tape their sexual abuse are among the most reprehensible people that we prosecute," said Meehan. "In our society, anyone who victimizes children must face the consequences for their actions regardless of their stature in the community."

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT(S)

NAME	AGE
Lawrence Scott Ward	65 years old

¹ An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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If convicted, the defendant faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years imprisonment up to 45 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$750,000, three years of supervised release, and \$300 in special assessments.

The case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bea L. Witzleben.

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